

QA: Why Can't All Wars Stop? by John T Polk II

All Scriptures and comments are based on the **New King James Version**, unless otherwise noted.

QUESTION: Why can't all wars stop?

ANSWER: Because there have always been "evil men" whose total disregard for the Word of God can only be limited by God's judgmental response.

1. There have always been "evil men." Beginning with Cain,

... who was of the wicked one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his works were evil and his brother's righteous. (1 John 3:12)

David asked God to:

Deliver me, O LORD, from evil men; Preserve me from violent men, Who plan evil things in their hearts; They continually gather together for war. (Psalm 140:1-2)

Paul warned:

But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived. (2 Timothy 3:13)

"Evil men" (and women!) must be recognized for what they do and are not to be treated as if they were humble, penitent Christians — unless they are!

2. **There has always been God's judgmental response.** Cain expected that he would "be a fugitive and a vagabond on the earth, and it will happen that anyone who finds me will kill me" (**Genesis 4:14**). When humanity began again after the Flood in Noah's day, God ordered:

"Whoever sheds man's blood, By man his blood shall be shed; For in the image of God He made man." (Genesis 9:6)

Through the Law of Moses, God ordered government to issue the following judgment:

"But if any harm follows, then you shall give life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, burn for burn, wound for wound, stripe for stripe." (**Exodus 21:23-25**)

This never was to be an individual's response but was completely a fixed judgment for the court's response to violent, reckless crime! Today under Christ,

[Christians should] submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake, whether to the king as supreme, or to governors, as to those who are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and for the praise of those who do good. (1 Peter 2:13-14)

Government that punishes "those who do good" and/ or praises "evil doers" is not authorized by God!

3. Solomon Wrote:

Because the sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil. (Ecclesiastes 8:11)

Jesus added: "All who take the sword will perish by the sword" (Matthew 26:52), which confirmed the principle that violence must be met with a violent response. God had Isaiah write,

"Woe to the wicked! It shall be ill with him, For the reward of his hands shall be given him." (**Isaiah 3:11**)

Response to the beasts of power is:

He who leads into captivity shall go into captivity; he who kills with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints. (**Revelation 13:10**)

Wars stop when evil doers are punished.

—— jtpll, 10/29/2023